

REMARKS

Entry of the amendment to claim 1 as indicated above is respectfully requested.

No claims having been cancelled or added, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-20 remain pending in this application, with claims 1, 7, 9, 11, 13, 16 and 19 being written in independent form.

The Applicant submits that the amendment to claim 1, which corrects a typographical error in the infinitive “to welding” to read, more appropriately, “to weld,” and does not represent any narrowing of the claim or the introduction of new subject matter. The Applicant further submits that consideration of this amendment requires no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Office and requests that entry of the amendment be recommended by the Examiner and approved, if necessary, by the appropriate supervisory authority.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, the Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims remain suitable for allowance and requests that the amendment be entered and the application be allowed to proceed to issue.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number indicated.


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any underpayment or non-payment of any fees required under 37

C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, or credit any overpayment of such fees, to Deposit Account

No. 08-0750, including, in particular, extension of time fees.

Very truly yours,

HARNESS, DICKY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

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